

Lexington Caucasian.

GRANT'S NEPOTISM VINDICATED.

It is a trifle singular that while we Democrats—all of us—have been inveighing bitterly against the scandalous nepotism at Washington, the very first appointment to office made by Gov. Woodson, of Missouri, should be his own brother-in-law, Dr. Shannon, of St. Joe, as his private secretary. Consistency is a jewel; but such consistency is jewelry on the pinhead order. We had supposed that no Democrat, after what had been said about this abominable and undermining new custom in America, could be willing to hazard such a step. We offer no objection to the person appointed. He is doubtless, not only a sound and enlightened Democrat, but perhaps the best one that the Governor could have selected for the peculiarly delicate duty to be performed—still he is a brother-in-law of the Governor, and should not have been appointed; for the universally expressed voice of the Democratic party has been in denunciation of this new family government practice. The Democracy of Missouri are thus stultified by this indefensible act of their standard-bearer, whose whose credit in the late campaign is attributable to his own assaults, and the assaults of his numerous stump assistants, upon the nepotism of Grant's brother-in-law government. The new Democratic Governor of Missouri thus not only seals the lips of his friends on this question hereafter, and crams their stump-speeches, editorials, and resolutions down their throats, but he vindicates Grantism from an unquestioned Democratic standpoint. He has become Grant's Mosby on the brother-in-law question. If a brother-in-law is to fill any certain office, there is no reason why he should not be qualified for some other; and if it is proper to appoint one a private secretary, it is also in order to make another one something else; and thus one by one, providing for all the offices in the gift of the Executive. Grant has got all his kin in office—we don't know whether Woodson has or not. That depends upon how many brothers-in-law he has.

Now, the plain truth about the matter is this: Gov. Woodson has humiliated the Democratic party in his very first official act. And what is strangest about it, is that no Democratic journal in the state, has had the moral courage to say so. The Caucasian has no ax to grind at Jefferson city, and for one we refuse to ignore this state scandal, and we call upon the Democratic press to answer the question, whether, if it is nepotism in Grant to appoint a brother-in-law to office, it is also nepotism in Woodson to do the same thing? Answers to this conundrum are respectfully solicited.

DEATH OF NAPOLEON III.

The ex-Emperor Napoleon died at Chislehurst, England, on the 9th inst., at 45 minutes past 10 o'clock a. m., from overdoes of chloroform, administered by his physicians while undergoing a second surgical operation.

The announcement has caused a sensation throughout the world, but especially in France, where a very large party continue to declare their faith and fealty in the rulership of the Bonapartes.

To-day France, over which Napoleon III. ruled for twenty years, is a republic, so-called; but a despotism nevertheless, all the less bearable because it parodies the sacred name of human liberty. And the French people may tolerate the present government for a time, but only so long, and only by necessary to give the true and only natural contestants to their throne, time to economize and organize those moral and physical forces which were disturbed by the unexpected German conquest of the country. Those contestants are the Bourbons and Bonapartes. No matter what may be said of republicanism in a country like our own, it is ill-adapted to those nations which boast a history before our theory of government was born, and a destiny interwoven with the very names of their ancient and hereditary rulers. Their government is the best argument against republicanism, which the feudal partisans of the imperial and the kingly rule, could well ask Napoleon himself, it is said, had but lately expressed the opinion, that he would soon be called back by France to restore her prosperity and give her people liberty! A republican government, without the spirit of republican liberty—such, for instance as those now existing in France, Mexico, and nearly so, in the United States, is a despotism of the most aggravating character. It is the form, without the breath of life, is the shadow, without the substance. A republican government, the laws of which banish its opponents, which forbid residence within the national borders, which fear the living and the dead, which depend upon force to be carried out, and in fact bind the reaching ability and experience of the gentleman. Had it not been for his long and faithful watchcare of the Democracy of St. Louis county, there is no telling what might have come of it. But he has nursed it, and cared for it, and it would have been downright ingratitude in the St. Louis Democracy not to have elected him to the United States Senate, and we say to the Senators at Washington: Gentlemen, if you expect to

soot a baby, you will be disappointed. Col. Bogy is no novice; but a firm, solid man of giant mind and flinty structure, who is made of stuff just a little better than the kind in common use now-a-days. He will be just as young apparently, and perhaps more durable, when you are all in your graves and dust again.

The whole press of the country has this week been asking the absurd question, "Who is Louis V. Bogy?" For their benefit we have given this imperfect sketch. Let them search among their museum libraries, the ruins of Pompeii, and write for further particulars, (stamp enclosed), to the Democracy of St. Louis county, who have known him since the first settlement of Missouri.

HOW TO RETRENCH.

It is popular now to discuss the question of retrenchment. Let us retrench, say all the messengers. Let us retrench, answer all the Legislators. Retrenchment is whispered by the lips even of the plunderer, with his hand arm-deep in the treasury vaults. Every man who wants an office bawls out to his neighbor or the back fence, let's retrench; and his neighbor, who pockets a fee for his vote, tells of the hard times and necessity for retrenchment. This is just now the period for the annual agitation of this question at Jefferson City. And while others are giving advice about retrenchment on general principles, we shall suggest some special trifles that might be cut down and a dollar or two saved. For instance, the legislative printing bill which runs up to somewhere between \$20,000 and \$50,000, might be dispensed with altogether; \$1,000 ought to cover the expense of printing the text of a few necessary changes in the law. \$50,000 are annually paid out under the head of "Guards and Employees," \$3,000 to \$5,000 are sufficient for that. State Geologist, \$3,000; Assistant Geologist, \$2,000; discharge both of them, and give some industrious scientist \$500 a year to furnish the necessary information. Governor's private secretary, \$1,500—\$1,000 are big pay. Secretary of State and four clerks, \$9,000—\$6,000 are enough. Auditor, one clerk, and three book-keepers, \$9,100—reduce it to \$6,500. Register of Lands, a mere sinecure, and three clerks, \$6,500—reduce the whole to \$1,200. Superintendent of Public Schools, a mere figure-head, \$3,000—reduce it to \$1,000. Assistant School Superintendent, \$2,000—do away with the office, altogether. Adjutant General, \$2,000—abolish the office and let the trifling duties be done by the Secretary of State. Adjutant's chief clerk and two common clerks, \$8,900—discharge them and let them go home and plant corn. Five Judges Supreme Court, \$23,500 per annum—reduce to \$12,500. Secretary Board of Guardians, \$1,500, and estimated expenses \$1,000 more—reduce salary to \$1,000, and expenses to \$200. Rent out the penitentiary, and get rid of all the dead-beats who are living off the public crib for doing nothing. Abolish the thirty-four Circuit Judges, at \$68,000 per annum, and also those of the probate courts, and let common pleas and county courts in the counties perform their duties at a good fair salary. Erect one criminal court for each congressional district, for the trial of bloody cases, to sit perpetually. Abolish mileage and per diem to members of the legislature; give each one a salary of \$300 for the session, and will have business done quickly and cheaply.

OUR NEW SENATOR.

A numerous-attended caucus of the Democratic members of the Missouri Legislature was held at Jefferson City on Thursday week, at which some balloting developed the strength of the several aspirants. In this first meeting the vote stood on the ninth ballot as follows: Blair, 24; Phelps, 26; Bogy, 26; Anderson, 12; Naption, 5; Reynolds, 1; Colman, 1; Rollins, 4; Vest, 6; Edwards, 2; Slayback, 2.

At an adjourned meeting of the caucus, which took place last Monday, the seventeenth ballot stood as follows, the hindmost candidate having been dropped at each poll: Blair, 47; Bogy, 64—four more than the number necessary to a choice. In this ballot, the supporters of Phelps, Anderson and Vest went over to Bogy; Mr. Hutchins of St. Louis, who was lately defeated for the nomination for Speaker, by the Blairites, having contributed largely towards Blair's discomfiture.

The subject of this article, Hon. Lewis V. Bogy (pronounced Boshazy), is a Frenchman of St. Louis county, and a native of Alsace and Lorraine. He emigrated to this country at a very early age, and took part in the war for the Independence of the Colonies under the Marquis de La Fayette. In 1803, he crossed the Mississippi river on the ice, and built himself a fort at St. Louis sometime before the first inhabitant arrived. The Sacs and Foxes were then the principal inhabitants of that part of the State, while the Sioux and some other native citizens were his nearest neighbors. After he had been in the larger business in St. Louis county for a short time, he fell out with some gentlemen, who were doing business in hair and hides, who got the upper hand of him, and they took him forcibly into the wilds a short distance, with the apparent purpose of doing him some bodily harm; but to exemplify this distinguished gentleman's accomplishments, he related to them some incidents of travel, explained to them the old mystery of embalming, and told them some romantic stories about many former attempts made to burn his neatly preserved body, in such a polished, off hand, ingenious manner, that the Indians all fell to laughing, then to weeping, then to applauding, and finally they took him and set him on their shoulders and bore him back to St. Louis county unharmed, and dumped him out, and there he has ever since been living with very brief intervals, as a member of the Democratic party.

We are assured by gentlemen, whose great-grand-parents had known him long ago, that Col. Bogy is a walking museum of curiosities. It is said that on his back from the shoulder down to the waist are hieroglyphics supposed to have been set in indelible ink, by the Emperor Bonaparte, and believed to be a duplicate copy of the Babylonian account of the flood. On the left shoulder and behind the withers are Egyptian sculptures of winged centaurs and human-headed birds and monstrosities. Mr. Bogy has no memory of the epoch when they were put there; but he insists, so we are told, that the Egyptian style of embalming is far superior to that attempted to be practiced at the present day. He is satisfied that for this fact only, he should now doubtless be in feeble health, if indeed he would have been able to endure the climate and rough usage through which he has so far successfully passed.

There is no question as to the far-reaching ability and experience of the gentleman. Had it not been for his long and faithful watchcare of the Democracy of St. Louis county, there is no telling what might have come of it. But he has nursed it, and cared for it, and it would have been downright ingratitude in the St. Louis Democracy not to have elected him to the United States Senate, and we say to the Senators at Washington: Gentlemen, if you expect to

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NOT RAILROADS, BUT MANUFACTURES.

LEXINGTON, MISSOURI, JAN. 14, 1873.

Editors CAUCASIAN: Please allow me to direct your columns to say to the people of Lafayette county in regard to the proposed railroad from Kansas City to the coalfields of this and Saline counties, over which they seem to be exultant, in my opinion a very sad mistake. It is a mistake of the first magnitude, and one that will get a bid on the canal, and thereby bring money here. Now let us look at this, and see if they reason correctly. Kansas City is now paying from \$100 to \$150 per ton for coal, and proposes to pay but 15 cents per bushel for Lexington coal, although this coal is far better than the coal they are now using. 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